

WASHINGTON NEWS

National Rifle Practice Will Take Place in January.

UNDERGROUND WATER SUPPLY

National Board Making Good Progress in Teaching Rifle Practice, Not Only Among Soldiers, but Also Policemen.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 10, 1906.—Although the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice will not decide upon the range where the next national match is to be shot until January next, the matter is exciting much interest among riflemen. There are always two candidates, Sea Girt, New Jersey, and Fort Riley, Kansas, with Creedmore, New York, in the background. But this year Ohio is in the lead and if she can satisfy the Board her accommodations are ample, as seems most likely, she will probably receive the honor. Never has the national match been shot in the Central States, unless Fort Riley is considered in that territory. The presence of one thousand marksmen competing for rich prizes and honored trophies, is calculated to give the sport an impetus through the territory where matches are held. It is therefore thought that if they are held in Ohio next August and September it will encourage rifle practice in that, and the neighboring States as nothing else would do. It would also stimulate other States to construct ranges on which the National matches can be shot. The Board is in receipt of interesting information concerning the new Ohio range. It is located near Port Clinton, Ohio, and faces north with the target butts at the lake front. The water is comparatively shallow at this point, which would prevent boats getting in close enough to be in the danger zone. The Lake Erie shore at this point has one of the finest bathing beaches on the Great Lakes. The firing is toward the north, so it can be continued throughout the day with the maximum light on the targets all the time.

The range is twenty-nine miles from Toledo, nineteen from Sandusky, and fifty-nine from Cleveland. Put-in-Bay, the celebrated Lake Erie resort, is only twelve miles across the lake and is visible from the range while eight miles north of the range is the scene of Perry's famous victory. There are many other resorts within easy distance of the range, so there will be no lack of recreation for the shooters. Some held the idea that the fewer the outside attractions, the more closely the marksmen attend to business. While this is partly true it is nature to combine business and pleasure, where possible, and the more attractive the range, the larger the attendance. Next to the range the Ohio Rifle Association has purchased about thirty acres and by next August expects to have a fine club house on the order of the one at Sea Girt.

All riflemen will be interested in knowing that the Ohio range is so laid out that there will be fifty targets at each of the long, mid and short ranges, thus enabling each team on the national match to have a target of its own and to fire at the same time and under the same conditions as the others. There will be a telephone for each battery of ten targets, the wires being laid underground. The latest type of the signal corps telephone will be used, and the conduits are ready for installation. The skirmish field will accommodate fifty men on a run, which number can be doubled by running on the long range. Over one-third of the concrete walls for the butts, has been completed, and over half the targets are on the ground. They are being erected as rapidly as possible. The "Alken target," an all steel apparatus, is being installed throughout the range.

One of the most important features is the complete system of underground water supply and sewerage. Col. E. T. Miller, Assistant Quarter-master General, writes that his department means to make this feature of the campgrounds a model. The water from Lake Erie will be thoroughly filtered, and the sewage will be disposed of by filtration in an especially prepared filter approved by the State Board of Health. The entire range will be lighted by electricity. As Ohio has new tentage for sixty-five thousand men there will be no lack of accommodations although it is expected the attendance next year will be much larger than it was this year. The matches of the National Rifle Association will probably precede those of the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice.

All riflemen will be interested in the proposition to incorporate the National Rifle Association of America by Congress. A bill for that purpose is now being drafted and will be presented to Congress if the Board of Directors of the Association approves at their annual meeting in January. This Rifle Association occupies the

same position toward rifle practice in this country that the National Rifle Association of Great Britain does in that country, except that our Association has received no support from the Government and comparatively little from individuals. William Waldorf Astor gave the British Association \$50,000 in one gift. The National Rifle Association of this country has been looking for some American to do likewise, but has failed to find him so far.

The War Department has notified the Adjutant General of Missouri that the renting of grounds for target ranges, or of grounds or buildings, for shooting galleries, together with the expenses necessarily attending their adaptation for the above purposes, can properly be paid from the State's allotment under the recent act of Congress increasing the Militia appropriation, and under the order of the Secretary of War.

The National Board has noted with pleasure the progress made in training the police of different cities to use their revolvers for the encouragement of revolver shooting. It comes within the purview of the Board, and several police officers have shot in the National Pistol match. The good work of the Washington police force, largely composed of ex-soldiers and marines, has been previously referred to, along with that of the Cincinnati police. The latest comes from Rochester, New York. The city recently spent several thousand dollars in equipping the police with revolvers of a uniform make, and was right proud of its venture until it developed that only a few of the policemen knew how to shoot. One captain admitted that he had never fired a revolver, and one of the sergeants failed to hit a target in ten shots, so it is reported. This opened the eyes of the police commissioner who is said to have declared that he will never promote another man who cannot shoot. The regulations now prescribe a rating of ten per cent for skill with the revolver, and every candidate for promotion is required to qualify by making at least twenty out of a possible fifty or he is barred from the written examinations. When other cities follow Rochester's example there will be less shooting of the "innocent bystanders."

A good idea comes from Michigan, where there has been a great spread

of the interest in rifle practice. Many new rifle clubs are being formed in that State, and are securing a limited number of the government Krags through the ordnance department of the Army. The proposition is to have an indoor shoot between teams representing the signal corps of Ypsanti and Co. J. First Infantry, of Ann Arbor, at which the prizes, instead of the usual medals or trophies, will be annual subscriptions to the seven leading military and rifle publications of this country. These publications will be on file in the reading room of the winning team.

So interested have they become in rifle practice in Detroit that the Michigan State Rifle Association has loaned one of its Krags to a shooting gallery in Detroit, whose proprietor has fitted up a special 75-foot gallery for military rifle practice and will give free instructions in its use. This is said to be the first commercial rifle gallery in the United States to provide facilities for practicing with the national weapon.

How to retain the interest of expert rifle shots in the the sport, is a question that has often been discussed. In writing to the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice, an active organizer of civilian rifle clubs says that this can best be done by the organization of citizens rifle clubs. Many expert riflemen leave the army and militia and drop out of sight. If they had an opportunity to join a rifle club where they would get the use of government rifles, a range and ammunition to which they were accustomed, they would be glad to keep in practice and the time spent in training them originally would not be lost. "This proved the case in Detroit a few weeks ago" says the Board's correspondent, "when we formed the Detroit Rifle and Revolver Club. Just such men read of the formation of the club in the papers and half a dozen or more applied for membership. Among them were two from the Canadian service who retain their interest in shooting and who will make excellent instructors when they get a range."

While one department of the army seeks a uniform which renders the wearer as nearly as possible invisible at a short distance, another branch is training the soldiers to sight this col-

or and shoot at it, thus approaching battle conditions. To this end the ordnance department has supplied targets of olive drab for skirmish runs, and they will be tested at several posts. In the skirmish firing there are two figures, one representing a man kneeling and the other a man prone, with only the head and shoulders showing. The result of the tests will be awaited with interest.

The Navy will shortly issue orders providing for an increase in pay for expert marksmen in the Marine Corps placing them on a footing with the expert marksmen of the army. As the Marine Corps has no ranges it proposes to arrange with the Bay State, New York State and New Jersey State Rifle Associations to allow the marines to shoot on the range near Boston, at Creedmore, New York, and at Sea Girt, New Jersey. The marines at Portsmouth, Boston and Newport, will use the Boston range, those at New York will go to Creedmore, and those at League Island to Sea Girt. The marines at Washington and Annapolis will probably use the range at Williamsburg, Virginia.

Cured of Bright's Disease.

Mr. Robert O. Burke, of Elnora, N. Y., writes: "Before I started to use Foley's Kidney Cure I had to get up from twelve to twenty times a night, and I was all bloated up with dropsy and my eyesight was so impaired that I could scarcely see one of my family across the room. I had given up hope of living, when a friend recommended Foley's Kidney Cure. One 50 cent bottle worked wonders and before I had taken the third bottle the dropsy had gone, as well as all other symptoms of Bright's Disease." T. F. Lauren, Owl Drug Store.

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"A dangerous surgical operation, involving the removal of a malignant ulcer, as large as my hand, from my daughter's hip, was prevented by the application of Bucklen's Arnica Salve," says A. C. Stickel, of Miletus, W. Va. "Persistent use of the Salve completely cured it." Cures Cuts, Burns, and Injuries. 25c at Chas. Rogers', druggist.

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5 pairs, \$1.00 Yarn Knit Socks, regular 35c value.

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50c pair, Heavy "Alaska" Socks; regular 75c value.

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Cashmere and Silk and Wool Soft Shirts, Flannel Shirts, single and double breasted, sweaters, Knit Coats and Knit Vests, Mackintoshes, Yarn and Wool Batting—everything carried in a Woolen Mill Store, all go at reduced prices during this sale.

Blankets

Need some? Better buy now. Prices won't be so low again. All Pure Oregon Wool \$3.75 for \$5.00 Mottled Gray, double blankets. \$5.00 for \$6.50 Mottled Gray double blankets. \$6.00 for \$8.50 Pure Lamb's Wool White Blankets. \$7.50 for \$10.00 Pure Lamb's Wool White Blankets. Better ones if you want them.

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